



State of Florida  
Department of Children and Families

Rick Scott  
Governor

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Secretary

# Office of Inspector General

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**OLG Investigation**

**2010 – 0039**

**May 10, 2011**

**Dawn E. Case**  
***Inspector General***

**Keith R. Parks**  
***Chief of Investigations***

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Mission: Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families, and  
Advance Personal and Family Recovery





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Secretary

## DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL Investigative Report Case Number: 2010-0039



Dawn E. Case  
Inspector General

## INTRODUCTION

Section 409.1671, Florida Statutes, directs the Department of Children and Families (Department) to outsource the provision of family services by contracting with qualified organizations for an integrated system of Community-Based Care (CBC). Through Department Contract #PJH04, between the Department and Kid's Central, Inc. (KCI), covering the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2010<sup>1</sup>, KCI serves as the lead CBC agency in Circuit 5's area of responsibility (Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Marion, and Sumter Counties). Through KCI Contract #C0910M-S002, covering the period of December 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010<sup>2</sup>, Children's Home Society, Inc. (CHS) is subcontracted to provide case management services to clients in Hernando, Lake, and Sumter Counties.

According to Department information, prior to CHS, LifeStream Behavioral Center, Inc.<sup>3</sup> (LifeStream) was responsible for providing case management services in Hernando, Lake, and Sumter Counties. In order to ensure the continuity of services in their respective counties, CHS hired former LifeStream employees, who transitioned their caseload to CHS, effective December 1, 2009.

CHS Program Manager Cherlette Collier reported to the Office of Inspector General (OIG) that she was informed by Department Children's Legal Services (CLS) Supervising Attorney Joelle Aboytes that former<sup>4</sup> Dependency Case Manager (DCM) Marie Stanford, a former LifeStream employee, was suspected of falsifying information in Florida Safe Families Network<sup>5</sup> (FSFN) Case ID #100297189 concerning services being completed by the family members. According to Ms. Collier, on April 8, 2010, Ms. Aboytes reported that on March 21, 2010, FSFN Intake ID #2010-052089 was initiated by the Florida Abuse Hotline<sup>6</sup> (Hotline) and assigned to Circuit 5 Child Protective Investigator Frances Ruth who subsequently discovered during her investigation that the family members identified in FSFN Case ID #100297189 never received services as

<sup>1</sup> Due to the ongoing contract renewal/negotiation process, Contract #PJH04 received a two-month extension through August 31, 2010.

<sup>2</sup> Contract #C0910M-S002 was renewed as Contract #C1011-CMA-LSH002, covering the period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

<sup>3</sup> Through KCI Contract #C08M-LS004, covering the period of December 1, 2008 through November 30, 2009, LifeStream provided case management services in Hernando, Lake, and Sumter Counties.

<sup>4</sup> Effective April 9, 2010, Ms. Stanford was no longer employed by CHS. Ms. Stanford previously worked for LifeStream Behavioral Center, Inc. (LifeStream) from March 2008 through November 2009, at which time she began her employment with CHS.

<sup>5</sup> The Florida Safe Families Network (FSFN) is Florida's federally funded Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System that provides information to support multiple community-based organizations and sheriff's offices, in partnership with the State of Florida, to identify victims of abuse and neglect.

<sup>6</sup> The Florida Abuse Hotline serves as the central intake and referral point for all reports of suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of children, disabled adults, and the elderly.



documented by Ms. Stanford. Ms. Collier explained that following her own review of FSFN Case ID #100297189, she was unable to find any documentation indicating that the family was offered services, which contradicted Ms. Stanford's Case Closure Summary on March 21, 2010.

Subsequent to Ms. Collier's complaint to the OIG, Ms. Aboytes reported that on April 12, 2010, during a permanency staffing with family members identified in FSFN Case ID #2529398, the family members indicated that they had never met Ms. Stanford, nor had she (Ms. Stanford) conducted any face-to-face home visits; however, Ms. Stanford's chronological notes in FSFN indicated that face-to-face home visits with the family members were conducted on at least four occasions between January 2010 and April 2010.

Based on the possibility of falsifications in the initial cases reported by Ms. Collier (FSFN Case ID #100297189) and Ms. Aboytes (FSFN Case ID #2529398), Ms. Collier completed a review of Ms. Stanford's open cases, at which time she (Ms. Collier) identified nine additional cases (FSFN Case IDs #100272903, #2692437, #100322634, #159908, #111682, #2499020, #48816, #100286726, and #104637) which may have been falsified by Ms. Stanford, bringing the total to eleven cases.

Based on the information provided by Ms. Collier and Ms. Aboytes, the OIG subsequently initiated an investigation.

## ALLEGATION AND FINDINGS

### Allegation

***Children's Home Society, Inc. (CHS) Dependency Case Manager Marie Stanford falsified child protective supervision records in FSFN. If supported, the allegation would constitute a violation of Section I.C.1. of Department Contract #PJH04 between the Department and Kid's Central, Inc. (KCI); Article III, Section 3.06 and 3.07 of Contract #C08M-LS004 between KCI and LifeStream Behavioral Center, Inc.; Section 3.22 and 3.23 of Contract #C0910M-S002 between KCI and CHS; the Rules of Conduct of the CHS Employee Handbook; and a potential violation of § 817.565(1)(a), F.S., § 837.06, F.S., § 838.022(1)(a), F.S., and § 839.13(2)(a) and (c), F.S.***

### Findings

The information obtained ***supports*** the allegation.

Based on the information provided by Ms. Collier concerning the eleven identified cases, the OIG Investigator conducted a review of these eleven cases which are addressed in each of the following sections:

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**SECTION I**

*Section I is a table reference which identifies all of the children mentioned throughout this report.*

Section	FSFN Case ID #	Child's Name	Referred to as	Age
III	2529398	[REDACTED]	Child 1	9
		[REDACTED]	Child 2	4
	100272903	[REDACTED]	Child 3	16
		[REDACTED]	Child 4	1
	2499020	[REDACTED]	Child 5	5
		[REDACTED]	Child 6	5
		[REDACTED]	Child 7	14
		[REDACTED]	Child 8	16
	48816	[REDACTED]	Child 9	17
	100297189	[REDACTED]	Child 10	8
		[REDACTED]	Child 11	5
IV	159908	[REDACTED]	Child 12	13
		[REDACTED]	Child 13	7
	111682	[REDACTED]	Child 14	11
		[REDACTED]	Child 15	13
V	2692437	[REDACTED]	Child 16	11
	100322634	[REDACTED]	Child 17	9 months
	100286726	[REDACTED]	Child 18	2
	104637	[REDACTED]	Child 19	8



**SECTION II**

*Section II is a table reference which identifies all of the parents/caregivers mentioned throughout this report.*

Section	FSFN Case ID #	Parent/Caregiver Name	Referred to as
III	2529398	[REDACTED]	Paternal Grandfather 1
		[REDACTED]	Paternal Grandmother 1
	100272903	[REDACTED]	Non-Relative Caregiver 1
	2499020	[REDACTED]	Non-Relative Caregiver 2
		[REDACTED]	Non-Relative Caregiver 3
		[REDACTED]	Mother 1
	48816	FARLING, Rebecca	Foster Parent 1
		THOMAS, Kenneth	Foster Parent 2
IV	100297189	[REDACTED]	Mother 2
	159908	[REDACTED] <sup>7</sup>	Mother 3
	111682	[REDACTED]	Mother 4
V	2692437	[REDACTED]	Mother 5
	100322634	[REDACTED]	Paternal Aunt 1
	100286726	[REDACTED]	Maternal Grandmother 1
		[REDACTED]	Mother 6
	104637	[REDACTED]	Maternal Grandmother 2
		[REDACTED]	Maternal Grandfather 1

<sup>7</sup> Mother 3 is also known as "[REDACTED]."

**SECTION III**

*Based on witness testimonies and records reviewed, Ms. Stanford falsified documentation relating to face-to-face visits with parents, guardians, and/or children she claimed to have conducted in at least five FSFN cases (#2529398, #100272903, #24299020, #48816, and #100297189) between December 2009 and April 2010.*

*Although the OIG Investigator conducted a complete review of each of the above-referenced cases, due to the volume of documentation contained therein, the following information pertains **only** to discrepancies noted between information provided by witnesses and information documented by Ms. Stanford in her FSFN Chronological Notes Reports.*

**FSFN Case ID #2529398**

Date	Home Visit Form	Mileage Reimbursement Log	FSFN Chronological Notes Report
December 8, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a "brief visit" with [Child 1 and Child 2] at their respective schools, from 9:00 a.m. (no end time documented).
January 10, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford claimed 70 miles of travel related to "Deland for Home Visit" <sup>8</sup>	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Paternal Grandfather 1, Paternal Grandmother 1, Child 1, and Child 2] from 4:00 p.m. (no end time documented).
February 6, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford claimed 66 miles of travel related to "Deland- [REDACTED] HV."	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Paternal Grandfather 1, Child 1, and Child 2] from 4:00 p.m. (no end time documented).
March 7, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Paternal Grandfather 1, Paternal Grandmother 1, Child 1, and Child 2] from 2:00 p.m. (no end time documented).
April 5, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Paternal Grandmother 1, Child 1, and Child 2] from 6:15 p.m. (no end time documented).

<sup>8</sup> Ms. Stanford did not include any identifying information.



**December 8, 2009**

- Spring Creek Elementary School Clerical Assistant Debbie Drake explained that all school visitors are required to sign the Visitor Log in the office prior to contact with a child; however, according to the OIG Investigator's review of the Visitor Log, there was no record that Ms. Stanford signed-in on this date.
- Umatilla Elementary School Pre-Kindergarten Liaison Lynn Miller explained that all school visitors are required to sign the Visitor Log in the office prior to contact with a child; however, according to the OIG Investigator's review of the Visitor Log, there was no record that Ms. Stanford signed-in on this date.
- According to Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) Sandra Booth, she conducted school visits with Child 1 and Child 2 at their respective schools on this date; however, Ms. Booth indicated that she conducted these visits alone and Ms. Stanford was not present.
- According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's CHS-issued cellular telephone records (December 8, 2009), Ms. Stanford received four calls at 8:58 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 9:27 a.m., and 1:21 p.m., and placed two calls at 10:34 a.m. and 10:51 a.m. All six calls originated<sup>9</sup> in Tavares, Florida, which is located approximately 11.36 miles<sup>10</sup> from Umatilla Elementary School Pre-Kindergarten in Umatilla, Florida and 24.98 miles from Spring Creek Elementary School in Paisley, Florida.

**January 10, 2010**

- Paternal Grandfather 1 and Paternal Grandmother 1 related that Ms. Stanford did not conduct a home visit on this date.
- Paternal Grandfather 1 explained that the only time Ms. Stanford came to his home was sometime in October or November 2009 with the previous DCM, Krystal Wiggins. Paternal Grandfather 1 related that he previously spoke to Ms. Stanford by telephone (unknown date), at which time Ms. Stanford promised that she would come to the home; however, Ms. Stanford never did.
- Paternal Grandfather 1 indicated that he attempted to meet with Ms. Stanford at her office (believed to be January 25, 2010); however, when he discovered that she was not there, he met with Ms. Stanford's supervisor (later identified as CHS Dependency Case Manager Supervisor Sue Graham) and advised the supervisor that Ms. Stanford was not conducting home visits.<sup>11</sup> Paternal Grandfather 1 stated that the supervisor indicated that Ms. Stanford would come out to the home; however, Ms. Stanford never did.
- Paternal Grandfather 1 stated that the information detailed in Ms. Stanford's chronological note which indicated that Child 1 "continues to do well in school

<sup>9</sup> According to Verizon Wireless Consultant Derek Jenkins, "origination" refers to the closest open cellular tower to which the user's cellular telephone is located when a call is placed and/or received.

<sup>10</sup> Mileage distances were obtained from [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com), using city-to-specific address distances.

<sup>11</sup> According to the OIG Investigator's review of the CHS Visitor Sign-In Sheets, Paternal Grandfather 1 signed-in on January 25, 2010 at 8:25 a.m. and listed the purpose of the visit as "to meet my case worker." When interviewed, Ms. Graham confirmed that she met with Paternal Grandfather 1 on January 25, 2010 to discuss case-related information; however, Ms. Graham related that Paternal Grandfather 1 did not advise her that Ms. Stanford was not conducting home visits.



and participates in sports” is inaccurate, as Child 1 had not participated in sports since December 2009.

- According to the OIG Investigator’s review of Ms. Stanford’s Travel Logs, Ms. Stanford documented that she traveled 70 miles to “Deland for Home Visit” from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; however, Ms. Stanford did not include any case-specific information.

#### **February 6, 2010**

- Paternal Grandfather 1 stated that Ms. Stanford did not conduct a home visit on this date.
- Paternal Grandfather 1 stated that the information detailed in the chronological note which indicated that Child 1 “continues to do well in school and in athletics at school” is inaccurate, as Child 1 had not participated in sports since December 2009.
- According to the OIG Investigator’s review of Ms. Stanford’s Travel Logs, Ms. Stanford documented that she traveled 66 miles to “Deland-[family] HV<sup>12</sup>” from 4:00 a.m. [sic] to 7:00 p.m.

#### **March 7, 2010**

- Paternal Grandfather 1 and Paternal Grandmother 1 related that Ms. Stanford did not conduct a home visit on this date.
- Paternal Grandfather 1 indicated that Ms. Stanford had previously claimed that she was not allowed to conduct home visits on weekends.<sup>13</sup>

#### **April 5, 2010**

- Paternal Grandfather 1 and Paternal Grandmother 1 related that Ms. Stanford did not conduct a home visit on this date.
- Paternal Grandmother 1 stated that she worked from 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Lake Mary, Florida and did not get home until after 7:00 p.m.

Based on witness testimony and records reviewed, the following facts were ascertained:

- Ms. Stanford falsified 5 face-to-face visits.
- Ms. Stanford submitted 1 fraudulent mileage reimbursement claim for a total of \$26.40.<sup>14</sup>

**On November 23, 2010, Ms. Stanford provided sworn testimony to Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), Division of Public Assistance Fraud (PAF) Financial Crimes Investigator Connie Rivera<sup>15</sup> (hereinafter referred to as “Investigator Rivera”). According to the OIG Investigator’s review of Ms.**

<sup>12</sup> Abbreviation for home visit.

<sup>13</sup> According to the 2010 Calendar, March 7, 2010 was a Sunday.

<sup>14</sup> Prior to December 1, 2009, travel reimbursement amounts were determined by a review of Ms. Stanford’s travel records submitted to LifeStream, which reimburses employees at a rate of \$0.47 per mile. Furthermore, beginning December 1, 2009, travel reimbursement amounts were determined by a review of Ms. Stanford’s travel records submitted to CHS, which reimburses employees at a rate of \$0.40 per mile.

<sup>15</sup> On January 1, 2011, the Division of Public Assistance Fraud was transferred from FDLE to the Department of Financial Services.

Stanford's transcribed testimony, the following pertinent information was disclosed:

**December 8, 2009**

- Ms. Stanford stated that FSFN may not have been updated correctly to indicate where Child 1 and Child 2 attended school.<sup>16</sup>

**January 10, 2010, February 6, 2010, March 7, 2010, and April 5, 2010**

- Ms. Stanford stated that Paternal Grandfather 1 "exaggerated" everything.

Ms. Stanford further stated that "any discrepancies that are found here have nothing to do with any legal documents that were presented to the court, no judicial reviews, no status reviews, no any other kind of legal document... They found no risk factors and no safety issues. Every discrepancy they're talking about has to do with FSFN notes."

<sup>16</sup> It is noted that Child 1 and Child 2's school records were determined by Lake County Public Schools attendance records and not FSFN notes.



**FSFN Case ID #100272903**

Date	Home Visit Form	Mileage Reimbursement Log	FSFN Chronological Notes Report
December 19, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Non-Relative Caregiver 1, Child 3, and Child 4] from 10:00 a.m. (no end time documented).
January 16, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Non-Relative Caregiver 1 and Child 3] from 4:00 p.m. (no end time documented).
February 7, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford claimed 70 miles of travel related to "Astor HV- [REDACTED]"	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Non-Relative Caregiver 1, Child 3, and Child 4] from 7:00 p.m. (no end time documented).
March 4, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Non-Relative Caregiver 1, Child 3, and Child 4] from 6:00 p.m. (no end time documented).
April 2, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Non-Relative Caregiver 1, Child 3, and Child 4] from 5:45 p.m. (no end time documented).

**December 19, 2009, January 16, 2010, February 7, 2010, March 4, 2010, and April 2, 2010**

- Non-Relative Caregiver 1 explained that Ms. Stanford did not conduct a home visit on any of these dates, as Ms. Stanford never conducted a home visit at her (Non-Relative Caregiver 1's) home. According to Non-Relative Caregiver 1, all contact with Ms. Stanford was either by telephone or at her (Ms. Stanford's) office<sup>17</sup> or in court<sup>18</sup>. According to Non-Relative Caregiver 1, Ms. Stanford called and scheduled four home visits; however, Non-Relative Caregiver 1 indicated that Ms. Stanford always called and cancelled the home visits.

<sup>17</sup> Non-Relative Caregiver 1 was unable to recall the dates she went to Ms. Stanford's office. According to the OIG Investigator's review of the CHS Visitor Sign-In Sheets, Non-Relative Caregiver 1 signed in on January 21, 2010, February 8, 2010, March 8, 2010, and March 16, 2010.

<sup>18</sup> FSFN chronological notes did not disclose any documentation by Ms. Stanford relating to court.

- Child 3 stated that Ms. Stanford did not conduct a home visit on these dates and that she (Child 3) only saw Ms. Stanford at her (Ms. Stanford's) office<sup>19</sup> and at court<sup>20</sup>.
- According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's Travel Logs, Ms. Stanford did not claim any mileage on December 19, 2009, January 16, 2010, March 4, 2010, and April 2, 2010.
- According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's CHS-issued cellular telephone records, on March 4, 2010, Ms. Stanford placed one call (voicemail) at 6:25 p.m. The call originated in Leesburg, Florida, which is located approximately 39 miles from Astor, Florida (Non-Relative Caregiver 1's residence).

Based on witness testimony and records reviewed, the following facts were ascertained:

- Ms. Stanford falsified 5 face-to-face visits.
- Ms. Stanford submitted 1 fraudulent mileage reimbursement claim for a total of \$28.00.

**On November 23, 2010, Ms. Stanford provided sworn testimony to Investigator Rivera. According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's transcribed testimony, the following pertinent information was disclosed:**

**December 19, 2009, January 16, 2010, February 7, 2010, March 4, 2010, and April 2, 2010**

- Ms. Stanford stated, "I may have checked the wrong thing but the contacts happened and the content of each note has never been in question any place in here." After further questioning by Investigator Rivera concerning Non-Relative Caregiver 1's statements that the home visits documented by Ms. Stanford were actually office visits, Ms. Stanford stated, "They were office visits."

<sup>19</sup> Child 3 was unable to recall the dates she went to Ms. Stanford's office. According to the OIG Investigator's review of the CHS Visitor Sign-In Sheets, Child 3 signed in on January 21, 2010, February 8, 2010, and March 16, 2010.

<sup>20</sup> FSFN chronological notes did not disclose any documentation by Ms. Stanford relating to court.



**FSFN Case ID #2499020**

Date	Home Visit Form	Mileage Reimbursement Log	FSFN Chronological Notes Report
December 26, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Non-Relative Caregiver 2, Non-Relative Caregiver 3, Child 5, and Child 6] from 9:30 a.m. (no end time documented).
January 9, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford claimed 26 miles of travel related to "Transport and supervise parent/child visit" <sup>21</sup>	Ms. Stanford documented that she transported [Child 5 and Child 6] for a visit with [Mother 1], from 10:30 a.m. (no end time documented). Ms. Stanford further documented that she "briefly saw [Child 8]" when bringing the children back from their visit."
February 5, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford claimed 22 miles of travel related to "Leesburg-HV [REDACTED]"	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Non-Relative Caregiver 2, Non-Relative Caregiver 3, Child 5, Child 6, and Child 8] from 5:30 p.m. (no end time documented).
March 3, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford claimed 22 miles of travel related to "Leesburg HV- [REDACTED]"	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Non-Relative Caregiver 2, Non-Relative Caregiver 3, Foster Parent 1 <sup>22</sup> , Child 5, Child 6, Child 7, and Child 8] from 6:30 p.m. (no end time documented).
April 1, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Non-Relative Caregiver 2, Non-Relative Caregiver 3, Child 5, Child 6, and Child 8] from 5:00 p.m. (no end time documented).

**December 26, 2009**

- Non-Relative Caregiver 2 and Non-Relative Caregiver 3 explained that Ms. Stanford did not conduct a home visit on this date, as Ms. Stanford never conducted a home visit at their home.<sup>23</sup> Non-Relative Caregiver 2 and Non-Relative Caregiver 3 stated that Ms. Stanford scheduled a home visit on this

<sup>21</sup> Ms. Stanford did not include any identifying information.

<sup>22</sup> Foster Parent 1 confirmed that Ms. Stanford conducted face-to-face home visits every month with Child 7; however, she was unable to recall specific dates.

<sup>23</sup> Non-Relative Caregiver 2 and Non-Relative Caregiver 3 indicated that Ms. Stanford had been to their home on January 9, 2010; however, that visit was only to pick-up Child 5 and Child 6. Non-Relative Caregiver 2 and Non-Relative Caregiver 3 related that Ms. Stanford never entered their home beyond the entry foyer.



date; however, according to Non-Relative Caregiver 2, on December 24, 2009<sup>24</sup>, Child 5 and Child 6 were sick and after being advised by Ms. Stanford that she too was sick, the December 26, 2009 home visit was mutually cancelled.

- According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's CHS-issued cellular telephone records, Ms. Stanford placed one call at 8:26 a.m., which originated in Leesburg, Florida. The call was to the home of Non-Relative Caregiver 2 and Non-Relative Caregiver 3 and lasted approximately 8 minutes.

#### **January 9, 2010**

- Non-Relative Caregiver 2 and Non-Relative Caregiver 3 related that this date was Ms. Stanford's first visit to their home. According to Non-Relative Caregiver 2 and Non-Relative Caregiver 3, Ms. Stanford came to the home to take Child 5 and Child 6 for a visit with Mother 1; however, Non-Relative Caregiver 2 and Non-Relative Caregiver 3 indicated that Ms. Stanford only stood inside the foyer and never entered or looked any further in the home.
- Non-Relative Caregiver 3 stated that Child 8 was sleeping and did not meet with Ms. Stanford.
- Child 8 related that he only met Ms. Stanford one time in court (unknown date) and that he never saw Ms. Stanford at his home.

#### **February 5, 2010, March 3, 2010, and April 1, 2010**

- Non-Relative Caregiver 2 and Non-Relative Caregiver 3 stated that Ms. Stanford did not conduct a home visit on any of these dates.
- Child 8 stated that Ms. Stanford did not conduct a home visit on this date.
- According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's Travel Logs, Ms. Stanford documented that she traveled 22 miles to Non-Relative Caregiver 2 and Non-Relative Caregiver 3's home from 5:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. [sic] on February 5, 2010.
- According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's Travel Logs, Ms. Stanford documented that she traveled to Non-Relative Caregiver 2 and Non-Relative Caregiver 3's home from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on March 3, 2010.

Based on witness testimony and records reviewed, the following facts were ascertained:

- Ms. Stanford falsified 5 face-to-face visits.
- Ms. Stanford submitted 2 fraudulent mileage reimbursement claims for a total of \$17.60.

**On November 23, 2010, Ms. Stanford provided sworn testimony to Investigator Rivera. According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's transcribed testimony, the following pertinent information was disclosed:**

<sup>24</sup> According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's CHS-issued cellular telephone, on December 23, 2009 at 2:24 p.m., Ms. Stanford received a phone call from ( ) , lasting approximately two minutes, which was identified as Non-Relative Caregiver 2 and Non-Relative Caregiver 3's home telephone number.



**December 26, 2009**

- Ms. Stanford stated that this visit occurred as documented.

**January 9, 2010**

- Ms. Stanford stated that "granted I only came into the foyer...I was there physically in the house. Is that somewhat of a stretch maybe but it was still a home visit." Ms. Stanford further admitted to Investigator Rivera that she "didn't necessarily go in and do an inspection of the house but [that she (Ms. Stanford)] did go to the home just to pick up the kids and drop them off..." Ms. Stanford stated that she did not have a "whole lot of contact with [Child 8] other than court."

**February 25, 2010, March 3, 2010, and April 1, 2010**

- Ms. Stanford did not respond to these dates in question.

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**FSFN Case ID #48816**

Date	Home Visit Form	Mileage Reimbursement Log	FSFN Chronological Notes Report
January 17, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Child 9] from 11:00 a.m. (no end time documented).
February 15, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Foster Parent 2 and Child 9] from 4:00 p.m. (no end time documented).

**January 17, 2010 and February 15, 2010**

- Foster Parent 2 explained that Ms. Stanford did not conduct a home visit on these dates. According to Foster Parent 2, he maintains a visitor sign-in log and there is no record that Ms. Stanford signed the visitor sign-in log on this date. Furthermore, Foster Parent 2 stated that he entered daily activity notes on his computer pertaining to Child 9; however, he had no notes concerning a home visit by Ms. Stanford on this date. According to Foster Parent 2, Ms. Stanford was only at the home on December 21, 2009 and February 26, 2010<sup>25</sup>.
- Child 9 stated that Ms. Stanford was at the home twice; however, Child 9 was unable to recall any specific dates.

Based on witness testimony and records reviewed, the following facts were ascertained:

- Ms. Stanford falsified 2 face-to-face visits.

**On November 23, 2010, Ms. Stanford provided sworn testimony to Investigator Rivera. According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's transcribed testimony, the following pertinent information was disclosed:**

**January 17, 2010 and February 5, 2010**

- Ms. Stanford stated that the visits occurred as documented.

<sup>25</sup> Foster Parent 2 stated that on occasion, a visitor may forget to sign the visitor log, in which case he will enter the visitor's name on his own. According to Foster Parent 2, on February 26, 2010, because Ms. Stanford forgot to sign the visitor log, he entered her name on the log for his records.



**FSFN Case ID #100297189**

Date	Home Visit Form	Mileage Reimbursement Log	FSFN Chronological Notes Report
October 28, 2009	Yes	Ms. Stanford claimed 8 miles of travel related to "School visit- [REDACTED]"	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face field visit with [Child 10] from 11:30 a.m. to (no end time documented).
December 3, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 2, Child 10, and Child 11] from 5:00 p.m. to (no end time documented).
December 26, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 2, Child 10, and Child 11] from 11:00 a.m. to (no end time documented).
January 26, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford claimed 30 miles of travel related to "Mt. Dora home visit- [REDACTED]"	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 2, Child 10, and Child 11] from 3:00 p.m. to (no end time documented).
February 19, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this visit.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 2, Child 10, and Child 11] from 4:30 p.m. to (no end time documented).
March 21, 2010	N/A	N/A	<u>Case Closure Summary:</u> Ms. Stanford documented that "services <sup>26</sup> were put in the home."

**October 28, 2009**

- Eustis Heights Elementary School Principal Douglas Kroulik stated that all school visitors are required to sign the Visitor Log located in the office. According to Mr. Kroulik, between August 25, 2009 and February 25, 2010, there was no record of Ms. Stanford signing the Visitor Log.<sup>27</sup>
- Mr. Kroulik related that according to school records, Child 10 attended school the entire day and was not dismissed early.
- According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's Travel Logs, Ms. Stanford documented that she traveled 8 miles to Child 10's school from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

<sup>26</sup> On December 11, 2009, Mother 2 entered into a Mediation Agreement with the Circuit Court of the 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, in and for Lake County, Florida (2009-DP-211-04) agreeing to cooperate with a list of services which would be provided by CHS in order for the ongoing Dependency proceedings to be dismissed.

<sup>27</sup> According to the OIG Investigator's review of the corresponding Home Visit Form, Ms. Stanford notated a field visit at Eustis Heights Elementary School with Child 10; however, there were no signatures from any school employee.



**December 3, 2009, December 26, 2009, January 26, 2010, and February 19, 2010**

- Mother 2 related that an “American Lady” came to her home on two occasions; however, she was unable to recall the “American Lady’s” name. Mother 2 indicated that it could have been Ms. Stanford, but could not be sure. Mother 2 was unable to recall any specific dates of such visits, nor was she aware of whether or not the “American Lady” ever visited her children at their schools.
- According to the OIG Investigator’s review of Ms. Stanford’s CHS-issued cellular telephone records, on January 26, 2010, between 2:29 p.m. and 3:55 p.m., Ms. Stanford placed and/or received seven calls. The first call (2:29 p.m.) originated in Tavares, Florida, which is located 3.99 miles from Mt. Dora, Florida (Mother 2’s home), while the following six calls (2:32 p.m., 2:50 p.m., 3:43 p.m., 3:44 p.m., 3:52 p.m., and 3:55 p.m.) originated in Leesburg, Florida, which is 14.48 miles from Mother 2’s home in Mt. Dora, Florida. *The origination point appears to move further away from Mother 2’s home.*
- According to the OIG Investigator’s review of Ms. Stanford’s Travel Logs, Ms. Stanford documented that she traveled 30 miles to Mother 2’s home from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on January 26, 2010.

**March 21, 2010**

- On March 21, 2010,<sup>28</sup> the Hotline initiated FSN Intake ID #2010-052089 based on a report alleging that a physical altercation between family members occurred in the presence of Child 10 and Child 11. The Intake was subsequently assigned to Circuit 5 Child Protective Investigator Frances Ruth.
- Ms. Collier explained that during Ms. Ruth’s investigation, she (Ms. Ruth) learned from Mother 2 that services were never placed in the home, contrary to Ms. Stanford’s Case Closure Summary, which indicated that “services were put in the home.” According to Ms. Collier and Dependency Case Manager Supervisor (DCMS) Debra Davis, upon Ms. Davis’ review of the physical case file (March 31, 2010), no documentation was found regarding services being provided to the family.

*Based on Ms. Ruth’s investigation (FSN Intake ID #2010-052089), the services case (FSN Case ID #100297189) was re-opened.*

Based on witness testimony and records reviewed, the following facts were ascertained:

- Ms. Stanford falsified 1 Case Closure Summary regarding services provided to Department clients and/or their caregivers.
- Ms. Stanford may have falsified 5 face-to-face visits with Department clients and/or their caregivers.
- Ms. Stanford may have submitted 2 fraudulent mileage reimbursement claims for a total of \$15.76.

<sup>28</sup> This is the same day that FSN Case ID #100297189 was closed by CHS.



On November 23, 2010, Ms. Stanford provided sworn testimony to Investigator Rivera. According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's transcribed testimony, the following pertinent information was disclosed:

**October 28, 2009, December 3, 2009, December 26, 2009, January 26, 2010, and February 19, 2010**

- Ms. Stanford stated that according to law enforcement notes, Mother 2 "[was] not necessarily honest...is an illegal [alien] who is deathly afraid that if she says the wrong thing to the wrong person in authority she's gonna get deported and lose her children."

**March 21, 2010**

- Ms. Stanford indicated that she took Mother 2's word that Mother 2 would obtain family counseling; however, according to Ms. Stanford, "apparently that was a lie 'cause it never actually took place, but I took her at her word and I shouldn't have."

**SECTION IV**

*Due to lack of recollection, witness availability, and/or witness cooperation, it was unable to be determined whether or not a falsification occurred in two FSFN Cases (#159908 and #111682) between January 5, 2009 and December 11, 2009.*

**FSFN Case ID #159908**

CHS Program Manager Cherlette Collier and Department Children's Legal Services (CLS) Supervising Attorney Joelle Aboytes advised that while Ms. Aboytes was researching Lake County Clerk of Court records related to FSFN Case ID #159908, she (Ms. Aboytes) discovered three Western Judicial Services, Inc.<sup>29</sup> (WJS) Urinalysis Reports dated December 2, 2009, December 7, 2009, and December 11, 2009, which yielded negative urine samples for Mother 3. Ms. Aboytes indicated that all of the handwritten information on each WJS Urinalysis Report appeared identical, except for the date of the test. Ms. Collier and Ms. Aboytes related that they subsequently contacted WJS Office Manager Serena Elliott who advised that according to their (WJS's) records, Mother 3 only submitted to one urine drug screen, which was on December 11, 2009.

Urinalysis Report <sup>30</sup> in Department Legal Case File	WJS Urinalysis Report found in WJS Records	Mother 3's Signature on the WJS sign-in log	Lake County Court Record on File
Yes	No	No	December 2, 2009
Yes	No	No	December 7, 2009
Yes	December 11, 2009	Yes	December 11, 2009

**December 2, 2009 and December 7, 2009**

- Ms. Elliott explained that upon arrival and prior to the administration of a drug screen, all clients are required to sign in on the WJS sign-in log; however, upon her review of the sign-in log, there was no record of Mother 3 entering the facility on either of these dates.
- WJS Data Entry Clerk Cheryl Neumann related that upon the completion of a drug screen, she completes a Urinalysis Log; however, upon her review of the Urinalysis Log, there was no record of Mother 3 completing a drug screen on either of these dates.
- Ms. Neumann indicated that her signature on the Urinalysis Report is authentic; however, Ms. Neumann further indicated that although the numbers ("12" and "09") representing the month and year, respectively, that the drug screens were completed were authentic, the numbers ("2" and "7") representing the days of the drug screens were not authentic. Ms. Neumann further opined that the Urinalysis

<sup>29</sup> Western Judicial Services, Inc. (WJS) delivers a variety of specialized client services including the administration of drug screens.

<sup>30</sup> According to WJS Data Entry Clerk Cheryl Neumann, the Urinalysis Report is completed by WJS after the drug screen. The report provides details of the urine analysis.



Report for each of these dates was copied based on the identical handwritten information appearing on each form.

- Mother 3 denied altering any Urinalysis Report and further related that she took three drug screens at WJS, all of which yielded negative results. Mother 3 was unable to recall any specific dates; however, she indicated that December 11, 2009 may have been the date of her first drug screen.
- Mother 3 was unable to recall whether or not she signed-in at WJS each time she submitted to a drug screen; however, Mother 3 indicated that upon the completion of a drug screen (unknown date), WJS provided her with a Urinalysis Report, which she subsequently provided to Ms. Stanford.
- Mother 3 indicated that her signature on all three of the Urinalysis Reports appeared to be authentic.
- Upon the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's FSFN chronological notes, the following pertinent information was disclosed indicating that until at least December 7, 2009, a drug screen had not been completed:

Date Entered:	December 7, 2009	Time Entered:	1:19 PM
Date of Contact:	December 5, 2009	Time of Contact:	2:00 PM
[Mother 3] is very upset over her father's death. <sup>31</sup> FCM postponed drug testing until 12/8/09 due to the death in the family.			

Date Entered:	December 7, 2009	Time Entered:	1:24 PM
Date of Contact:	December 7, 2009	Time of Contact:	10:00 AM
[Mother 3] had some concerns about if not being in town for testing last week was going to be a problem. FCM assured her we would make sure she get's [sic] her tests done before court.			

The OIG Investigator reviewed WJS records, which confirmed that Mother 3 completed a drug screen on December 11, 2009 and that the Urinalysis Report for that date was authentic.

Based on witness testimony and records reviewed, the following facts were ascertained:

- Ms. Stanford may have falsified two fraudulent Urinalysis Reports.
- Ms. Stanford may have submitted 2 falsified Urinalysis Reports to the 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court (Juvenile Division), in and for Lake County, Florida, which were filed as official records.

**On November 23, 2010, Ms. Stanford provided sworn testimony to Investigator Rivera. According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's transcribed testimony, the following pertinent information was disclosed:**

<sup>31</sup> Mother 3 confirmed being out of town due to a death in the family; however, Mother 3 was unable to recall whether or not that occurred before of after these drug screens. According to pertinent court records from the State of Alabama, Mother 3's father passed away on November 29, 2009.

**Drug Screens**

- Ms. Stanford stated that she was not sure how the December 2, 2009 and December 7, 2009 drug screens were submitted to the Court; however, Ms. Stanford indicated that although she understood the discrepancies presented, "it doesn't have anything to do with me."

REDACTED



**FSFN Case ID #111682**

Date	Home Visit Form	Mileage Reimbursement Log	FSFN Chronological Notes Report
January 5, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford claimed 40 miles of travel related to "HV [REDACTED] family"	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 4, Child 14, and Child 15] from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
January 18, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage on this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 4, Child 14, and Child 15] from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
January 24, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford claimed 135 miles of travel related to "pick up [REDACTED] child's wheelchair..."	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 4, Child 14, and Child 15] from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
March 12, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford claimed 40 miles of travel related to "HV [REDACTED]"	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 4, Child 14, and Child 15] from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
April 5, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford claimed 40 miles of travel related to "HV [REDACTED]"	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 4, Child 14, and Child 15] from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
May 1, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage on this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 4, Child 14, and Child 15] from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
May 26, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage on this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 4, Child 14, and Child 15] from 3:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.
June 8, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford claimed 80 miles of travel related to "Transport to PO <sup>32</sup> appt <sup>33</sup> [REDACTED]"	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 4, Child 14, and Child 15] from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

**January 5, 2009, January 18, 2009, January 24, 2009, March 12, 2009, April 5, 2009, May 1, 2009, May 26, 2009, and June 8, 2009**

- Attempts by the OIG Investigator to locate and contact Mother 4 were unsuccessful.
- According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's Travel Logs, Ms. Stanford documented that she traveled 40 miles to Mother 4, Child 14, and Child 15's home from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on January 5, 2009.

<sup>32</sup> Abbreviation for Probation Officer.

<sup>33</sup> Abbreviation for appointment.

- According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's Travel Logs, Ms. Stanford documented that she traveled 40 miles to Mother 4, Child 14, and Child 15's home from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on March 12, 2009.

Based on witness testimony and records reviewed, the following facts were ascertained:

- Ms. Stanford may have falsified 8 face-to-face visits with Department clients and/or their caregivers.
- Ms. Stanford may have submitted 5 fraudulent mileage reimbursement claims for a total of \$157.45.

**On November 23, 2010, Ms. Stanford provided sworn testimony to Investigator Rivera. According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's transcribed testimony, the following pertinent information was disclosed:**

**January 5, 2009, January 18, 2009, January 24, 2009, March 12, 2009, April 5, 2009, May 1, 2009, May 26, 2009, and June 8, 2009**

- Ms. Stanford stated that the visits occurred as documented.

*Ms. Collier reported that while cleaning out Ms. Stanford's desk, she discovered what appeared to be one drug screen result template (pictured below), dated November 11, 2008, and four drug screen results (pictured below) that were dated February 19, 2009, March 4, 2009, April 28, 2009, and May 4, 2009 from Counseling Associates Treatment Services, Inc. (CATS), all of which contained Mother 4's name and all of which appeared to have been altered in some manner.*

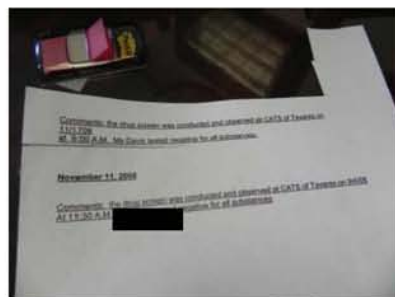
*Ms. Collier further reported that according to her review of the Lake County Clerk of Court records, it appeared that the same four drug screen results found in Ms. Stanford's desk, which were dated February 19, 2009, March 4, 2009, April 28, 2009, and May 4, 2009, were submitted and filed as official records with the 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court, in and for Lake County, Florida.*

<b>Altered Drug Screen Results found in Ms. Stanford's desk</b>	<b>Drug Screen Results on file with the Court with the same date</b>
February 19, 2009	YES
March 4, 2009	YES
April 28, 2009	YES
May 4, 2009	YES

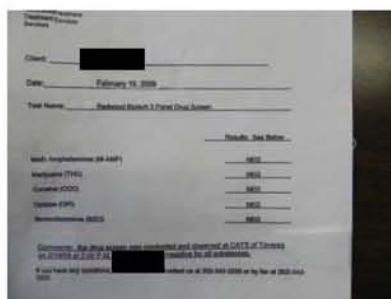


Photographs of the template and four altered drug screen results are pictured below:

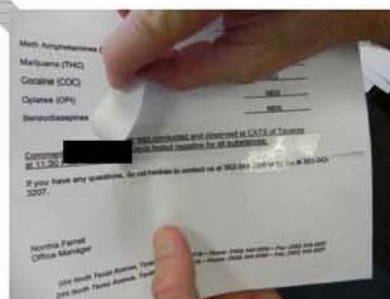
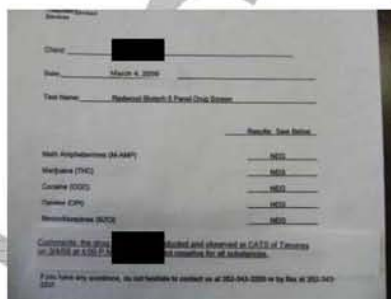
## Template



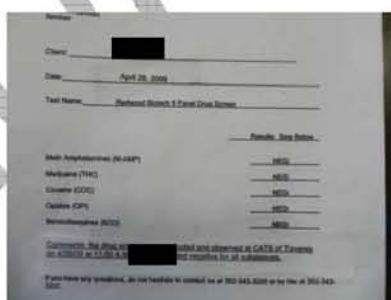
## February 19, 2009



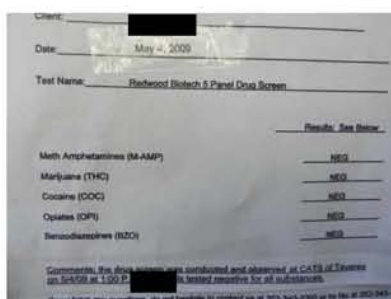
## March 4, 2009



## April 28, 2009



## May 4, 2009



**Witnesses provided the following pertinent information:**

- Ms. Collier reported that while cleaning out Ms. Stanford's desk, she discovered what appeared to be a drug screen result template and four drug screen results for Mother 4 from CATS.
- Ms. Collier indicated that the drug screen results appeared to have been altered as both the "Date" and "Comments" sections had pieces of paper containing new dates and/or comments taped over the original information.
- Ms. Collier further indicated that the drug screen result template appeared to have been used to create the new dates and/or comments, as portions of the drug screen result template appeared to have been cut out.
- According to Ms. Collier, a review of the Lake County Clerk of Court's official records of Mother 4's drug screen results (filed with the Court) appear identical to that of the four altered drug screen results found in Ms. Stanford's desk (February 19, 2009, March 4, 2009, April 28, 2009, and May 4, 2009).
- According to the Department of State, Division of Corporations, CATS is an active corporation; however, attempts by the OIG Investigator to contact Alfred Stalter, CATS Owner, were unsuccessful, as the listed telephone number was disconnected.
- Attempts by the OIG Investigator to locate Mr. Stalter at the business location were also unsuccessful, as it appeared to have been vacated.
- Attempts by the OIG Investigator to locate Mr. Stalter at his personal residence were also unsuccessful, as it appeared to have been listed for sale. John Roberts Realty Listing Agent Patsy Sperry advised that she would forward the OIG Investigator's contact information to Mr. Stalter's family; however, to date, no such contact has been made.
- Attempts by the OIG Investigator to locate and/or contact Mother 4 were unsuccessful.

Based on witness testimony and records reviewed, the following facts were ascertained:

- Ms. Stanford may have falsified 4 drug screen results relating to Mother 4.
- Ms. Stanford may have submitted 4 falsified drug screen results to the 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court (Juvenile Division), in and for Lake County, Florida, which were filed as official records.

**On November 23, 2010, Ms. Stanford provided sworn testimony to Investigator Rivera. According to the OIG Investigator's review of Ms. Stanford's transcribed testimony, the following pertinent information was disclosed:**

**Drug Screens**

- Ms. Stanford made the statement, "I don't know who did this but it wasn't me." Ms. Stanford further indicated that numerous people had access to her office...[who want] to make me look bad for whatever reason."



**SECTION V**

*Based on witness testimony and records reviewed, four FSFN Cases (#2692437, #100322634, #100286726, and #104637) do not appear to have been falsified.*

**FSFN Case ID #2692437**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Home Visit Form</b>	<b>Mileage Reimbursement Log</b>	<b>FSFN Chronological Notes Report</b>
December 23, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 5 and Child 16] from 11:30 a.m. to (no end time documented).
January 17, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 5 and Child 16] from 5:00 p.m. to (no end time documented).
February 12, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 5 and Child 16] from 1:00 p.m. to (no end time documented).
March 18, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 5 and Child 16] from 9:00 a.m. to (no end time documented).

**December 23, 2009, January 17, 2010, February 12, 2010, and March 18, 2010**

- Mother 5 related that Ms. Stanford conducted face-to-face home visits every month; however, Mother 5 was unable to recall specific dates. According to Mother 5, Ms. Stanford was an excellent worker and a very helpful individual who was always available when needed.

**FSFN Case ID #100322634**

Date	Home Visit Form	Mileage Reimbursement Log	FSFN Chronological Notes Report
April 2, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Paternal Aunt 1 and Child 17] from 7:00 p.m. to (no end time documented).

**April 2, 2010**

- Paternal Aunt 1 indicated that she did not recognize Ms. Stanford's name, nor did she recognize a photograph of Ms. Stanford shown to her by the OIG Investigator. Paternal Aunt 1 related that due to her pet's illness at the time, she was unable to recall whether or not Ms. Stanford conducted a home visit on this date; however, Paternal Aunt 1 related that based on the date/time of the visit, as well as the information contained in the chronological note, it was probable that Ms. Stanford conducted a home visit.



**FSFN Case ID #100286726**

Date	Home Visit Form	Mileage Reimbursement Log	FSFN Chronological Notes Report
January 6, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Maternal Grandmother 1 and Child 18] from 7:00 p.m. to (no end time documented).
February 4, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Maternal Grandmother 1 and Child 18] from 4:45 p.m. to (no end time documented).
March 5, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Maternal Grandmother 1 and Child 18] from 5:30 p.m. to (no end time documented).
April 7, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Mother 6 and Child 18] from 5:30 p.m. to (no end time documented).

**January 6, 2010, February 4, 2010, and March 5, 2010**

- Maternal Grandmother 1 stated that Ms. Stanford conducted face-to-face home visits every month and was a very helpful and wonderful person.

**April 7, 2010**

- Mother 6 stated that although she could not recall a specific date, Mother 6 indicated that Ms. Stanford conducted a face-to-face home visit sometime in April 2010 and was a very helpful, encouraging person.

**FSFN Case ID #104637**

Date	Home Visit Form	Mileage Reimbursement Log	FSFN Chronological Notes Report
October 19, 2009	Yes	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face field visit with [Child 19] from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
November 18, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face field visit with [Child 19] from 10:15 a.m. to (no end time documented).
December 17, 2009	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Maternal Grandmother 2, Maternal Grandfather 1, and Child 19] from 5:30 p.m. to (no end time documented).
January 9, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Maternal Grandmother 2, Maternal Grandfather 1, and Child 19] from 3:30 p.m. to (no end time documented).
February 6, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Maternal Grandmother 2, Maternal Grandfather 1, and Child 19] from 2:00 p.m. to (no end time documented).
March 1, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford claimed 20 miles of travel related to "Lady Lake home visit- [REDACTED]"	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Maternal Grandmother 2, Maternal Grandfather 1, and Child 19] from 7:00 p.m. to (no end time documented).
March 24, 2010	No	Ms. Stanford did not claim mileage for this date.	Ms. Stanford documented that she conducted a face-to-face home visit with [Maternal Grandmother 2, Maternal Grandfather 1, and Child 19] from 7:00 p.m. to (no end time documented).

**October 19, 2009, November 18, 2009, December 17, 2009, January 9, 2010, February 6, 2010, March 1, 2010, and March 24, 2010**

- Maternal Grandmother 2 stated that Ms. Stanford conducted face-to-face home visits every month with her, Maternal Grandfather 1, and Child 19 and also visited Child 19 at school; however, Maternal Grandmother 2 was unable to recall any specific dates.



**RISK ASSESSMENT**

On April 19, 2010, CHS Program Manager Cherlette Collier confirmed that the 25 children in all of Ms. Stanford's 17 open cases were seen and determined to be safe.

Ms. Collier stated that at the time the falsification was discovered, the average caseload in Ms. Stanford's unit was approximately 15 cases involving 26 children.

**FSFN Case ID #159908**

On April 20, 2010, following the discovery that Mother 3's Urinalysis Reports may have been falsified, FSFN Intake ID #2010-075820 was initiated by the Hotline and assigned to Circuit 5 Child Protective Investigator (CPI) Jennifer Hofferberth. On April 21, 2010, while commencing her investigation, Ms. Hofferberth discovered the same circumstances which led to Child 12 and Child 13's earlier removal from Mother 3 in 2008.<sup>34</sup> Based on Ms. Hofferberth's findings, Child 12 and Child 13 were again removed from Mother 3 (April 21, 2010) and placed into protective custody where they continue to receive necessary services.

**FSFN Case ID #111682**

On April 21, 2010, the Hotline initiated FSFN Intake ID #2010-076485 based on an allegation involving the fact that Ms. Stanford may have falsified Mother 4's drug screen results in FSFN Case ID #111682. FSFN Intake ID #2010-076485 was assigned to Circuit 5 CPI Tina Morgan who indicated no concerns regarding Child 14 or Child 15's wellbeing. Based on Ms. Morgan's findings, FSFN Case ID #111682 remained closed.<sup>35</sup>

**INSPECTOR GENERAL'S COMMENTS**

Based on witness testimony and records reviewed, the allegation that Children's Home Society, Inc. (CHS) Dependency Case Manager Marie Stanford falsified child protective supervision records in FSFN is **supported**.

The OIG Investigation disclosed the following pertinent facts:

- Ms. Stanford falsified at least 17 face-to-face contacts with Department clients and/or their caregivers in FSFN Case IDs #2529398, #100272903, #2499020, and #48816.
- Ms. Stanford falsified at least 1 Case Closure Summary in FSFN Case ID #100297189.

<sup>34</sup> On November 3, 2008, the Hotline initiated FSFN Intake ID #2008-506014 based on an allegation involving the suspected homicide of a two-year-old child in the care of Mother 3 and her paramour. On November 4, 2008, Child 12 and Child 13 were removed from Mother 3 and placed into protective custody. After completing court-ordered services, Child 12 and Child 13 were reunified with Mother 3 in September 2009 and December 2009, respectively, under the protective supervision of LifeStream followed by CHS.

<sup>35</sup> According to LifeStream records, FSFN Case ID #111682 was previously closed on June 18, 2009.



- Ms. Stanford submitted at least 4 fraudulent mileage reimbursement claims for a total of \$72.00 in FSFN Case IDs #2529398, #100272903, and #2499020.
- Ms. Stanford may have falsified at least 13 face-to-face contacts with Department clients and/or their caregivers in FSFN Case IDs #100297189 and #111682.
- Ms. Stanford may have falsified at least 6 drug screen results in FSFN Case IDs #159908 and #111682.
- Ms. Stanford may have submitted at least 6 falsified drug screen results to the 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court (Juvenile Division), in and for Lake County, Florida, which were filed as official records.
- Ms. Stanford may have submitted at least 7 fraudulent mileage reimbursement claims for a total of \$173.21 in FSFN Case IDs #100297189 and #111682.
- No falsifications were found in FSFN Case IDs #2692437, #100322634, #100286726, or #104637.

In accordance with § 20.055(6)(c), F.S., on August 9, 2010, this investigation was coordinated with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) for a possible violation of § 817.565(1)(a), F.S. (Urine Testing, Fraudulent Practices), § 837.06, F.S. (False Official Statements), § 838.022(1)(a), F.S. (Official Misconduct), and § 839.13(2)(a) and (c), F.S. (Falsifying Records). FDLE advised that they would initiate a criminal investigation on that same date (August 9, 2010). On January 18, 2011, FDLE referred their case to the State Attorney's Office (5<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit), in and for Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Marion, and Sumter Counties. On April 21, 2011, Ms. Stanford was charged with 25 counts of § 839.13(2)(a), F.S. (Falsifying Records-3<sup>rd</sup> degree felony) and a capias was issued for Ms. Stanford's arrest on that same date. On the following day (April 22, 2011), Ms. Stanford was arrested.

In compliance with §20.055(6)(e), F.S., a copy of this report was provided to Ms. Stanford on October 14, 2010. On October 20, 2010, Ms. Stanford provided a written response to the OIG Investigative Report, in which she denied any wrongdoing, except for the following quoted circumstances, in pertinent parts:

*I would like to now take ownership of the mistake I actually made. I made an error in judgment in an effort to attempt to manage an unmanageable caseload...I made the wrong decision for what I thought was the right reasons. I did check the home visit box in my notes, in 3 cases for contacts that were actually other types of contacts i.e.: office visit, phone, court, or meeting. The following is a breakdown of those cases.*

*Case # 2499020...This was a stable, long term placement I saw the 5 year olds weekly at the office and the 16 year old was doing exceedingly well and I was seeing him at court...I saw no safety risk in not doing regular home visits until I could get my caseload more manageable..*



*Case # 100272903...I also had regular phone contact with [Child 3 and Child 4's] caregiver and [Child 3's] adult sibling. There were also office meetings every month...I made several attempts to visit this family but every time we had something scheduled something "blew up" on another case. That was the reason we met at the office so often...Again, there were no safety issues in the home...*

*In case # 48816...[Foster Parent 2] may very well be right...It is an excellent placement in which I had no safety concerns...*

It is recommended that the Central Regional Director review this report, provide a copy to Children's Home Society, Inc., and request the following:

- The findings of this report are annotated in Ms. Stanford's personnel file.
- A review of Ms. Stanford's travel claims be conducted and recoupment sought for any claims deemed fraudulent.

REDACTED

***This investigation has been conducted in accordance with the ASSOCIATION OF INSPECTORS GENERAL Principles & Quality Standards for Investigations.***